

SECRET

9 June 1959

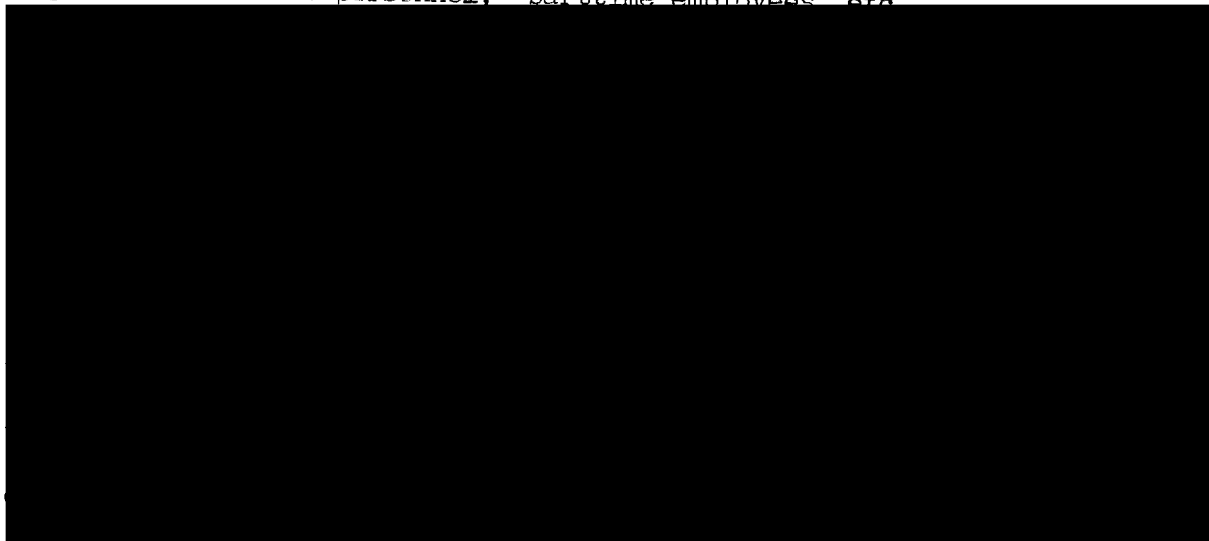
MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with [REDACTED] Comptroller's Office, re History of Office of Comptroller, 1953-1956

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1. Regarding the figures for Agency contract personnel and employees of proprietary corporations, he said I should go to the Office of Personnel. A couple of years ago, the Comptroller's Office kept some personnel figures. Their figures did not agree with those compiled by the OP. It was decided that OP would be solely responsible for compiling figures on personnel. The Comptroller's Office gets its personnel figures for budget estimates from OP. He said that I should ask specifically for figures on contract personnel, parttime employees, etc.

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3. He said that the Comptroller's Office has found it very difficult to get out Agency budget regulations. The DD/P has the power to veto regulations and it has held up a general budget regulation. As a result the Comptroller's Office has had to operate by means of instructions. There is a big <sup>proposed</sup> budget handbook <sup>Budgetary Procedures (1956?)</sup> which is sent around to all offices. These offices find it wise to follow these instructions. They are not as binding as Agency regulations would be. They have been able to get agreement on accounting regulations.

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4. He said that he would have time now to wind up the draft of the Comptroller's Office. It would cover by fiscal years, main accomplishments, staff on duty by subunit, organizational changes, workload, costs of Comptroller's office. He said that he would cite regulations, instructions, etc.

5. He thought that the IG's report on the Comptroller's Office was made <sup>(1954)</sup> after ~~1956~~ but he would look it up and the comments of the Comptroller's Office on it.

6. He said that one trend was the increasing use of machines to do accounting. In some cases, machine methods created new problems. It is extremely difficult to run down errors based upon faulty data fed into the machines.

7. He said that he would described changes in the internal budget process, in handing of estimates with the Bureau of the Budget, and presenting estimates to Congress.